

Dublin, November 7, 1857,

Dear Mr May

I have read your letter and forwarded  
his share to Mr. Havorth perfectly directed &  
think it better to write at once to save your  
trouble about the danger incurred by a union  
of the friends of the American Liberty with  
the New Broad Sheet People. In my opinion  
I think my opinion is a good one on such a  
matter, there is very little danger of any such union.  
I think Pillsbury has claimed you on this head.  
What he may have been at home because he knows  
but I do think his way of viewing about every  
thing here partakes of a morbid character. He  
is suspicious & treacherous, he refuses to be moved &  
carefully approached & takes very exaggerated views  
of things. Of this you had a specimen in his way  
of receiving your very natural & proper remarks  
about the Standard in reply to my statement to  
you of his views expected to me. I have across  
had any thing like disagreement with him - quite  
the contrary - he is to be here to day & I hope  
stay some time with us. He will be welcome  
whenever he comes for as long as he chooses to stay.  
I only speak as I do from a desire to put you in  
possession of the ground in which I would  
think it safest to accept his statements - they  
are perfectly truthful in intention but are tinged  
with darkness & suspicion. The truth is the warm  
intelligent friends of the Am. Lib. are very few  
and they are not likely to give up any thing to  
New Broad Sheet. The only persons of any conse-  
quence who could be suspected of any such dispo-  
sition are the Extremes and all they want is to make



the best use that can be made through the friendly  
disposition of the Secretary, of the only Society that  
stands before the public in the position of a national  
S. S. Society, with a staff, an office, and in my view  
command. From the Society I hope nothing. Its  
leaders are too old, too proud, or too indifferent  
to change. I think Chas<sup>W</sup> would like to display  
his talents as a mediator & diplomatist by bringing  
his friends & the Garrisonian abolitionists into  
friendly relations subject to his supervision, a sort  
of patronage. I don't think he will ever begin to  
do any thing of the kind. I think Chas<sup>W</sup> is  
honestly anti Slavery and would be with us as far as  
consistent with his head & butter. He has extraordinary good  
stomach - but is too much of a head & nose to make a  
good abolitionist. He is a puzzling kind of man &  
has done or appeared to do several things that never  
were more satisfactory to me - though some who  
took him seriously to task expressed their sincere  
satisfaction. Among the rest the anti Slavery. I don't  
think the latter who have stood by him in his darkest  
hours would give in one inch to any suggestion  
or word of his they disapproved. I feel confi-  
dent he will never make much of his favorite scheme  
of a happy family of abolitionists of the Garrison &  
Lewis Tappan kind living harmoniously  
together. I am told the conference in New  
Brow N is hardly likely to come to any thing -  
Joseph Sturge can't (won't) come - others can't  
(won't) come - they don't wish to be part of the  
happy family - and Chas<sup>W</sup> will make  
nothing of his scheme. Mr Sturge, Estlin expects  
far more from such union than I do  
or ever could do. The moral materials on each  
side are as wide as the poles as far as



I think you may make your mind quite easy  
in this matter. P. Pillsbury fears an ~~the~~ vain.  
I could as easily turn myself inside out as  
have confidence in her Brown Street. She is  
a pleasant fellow, but I never mean to lay the  
foundations of any estate in the foodwin lands.  
I will send the advocate to S. J. May & to C. Mowey  
I will look into Mr. Cottrell's subscription. I am  
it let right. My wife is not at home just now  
or I would ask her - she keeps the ~~books~~ ~~between~~  
accounts with you.

Will you stop the Liberator's letters sent to W. S.  
Pryor, Hope Street School, Hope Street, Liverpool.

Wm. Shattuck rec'd a notice of having paid nothing  
to the Liberator since 1829. Will you please  
say that in my next letter. I will endeavor to  
~~make~~ ~~them~~ give an explanation of this diffi-  
culty, for I know I got some money from him in  
the interval - and if I ~~don't~~ did not report it,  
the error was mine & shall be rectified.

Since writing the above I have looked over  
my memoranda for some years &  
find that William Shattuck paid ~~off~~ 16 shillings  
on account of Liberator in Nov. 1829 - & 12/6 in  
March this year. I called on him just now  
but was out & if I can not see him again  
today - but if he owes the balance of £2.6.6  
for the 6 years from 1829 to 1834 inclusive  
I fear he will hardly pay it. People have  
long commenced repaying old debts if they  
can manage to pay them over. If you could  
send me a list of some one to send me a statement  
of money due subscribers to the Liberator and of the



date of their last payment and what they  
pay - I will do my best to make them pay  
up. I mean to make out a little list for the  
~~American~~ subscribers to American paper & in  
this way learn more rapidly than we  
have hitherto had. My wife has the money  
from the list received and will hand it  
over if it be not noted in the last state-  
ment I forwarded you. Perhaps you  
would kindly inform me.

I need not say that I speak of P.D. in  
great confidence. He would never forgive  
me if he knew that I regarded him even  
as that of one who through illness looks on  
things in a morbid exaggerated way which  
makes himself and others see slowly  
uncomfortable. I think he has had an  
excellent time in Belfast. He will  
be here today & will wish to see us as  
soon as he can. If Miss Estlin was his  
sister she could not be more thoughtful  
of him & kinder to him.

We had her with us some weeks  
lately. She is most amiable, sensible,  
agreeable, easy & excellent and deserving  
of all love and respect. We could not  
have had a finer treat in a social  
way.

Yours ever truly

Richd. D Webb